

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Lake Tahoe Water Quality Improvements (TMDL Implementation)

Potential Funding Sources (April 2011)

Several State and Federal funding sources are available for Lake Tahoe water quality improvement activities. These are primarily available through competitive selection processes and are not specific for Lake Tahoe. However, most of these sources give priority consideration to supporting activities to achieve significant pollutant load reductions as specified in TMDLs.

Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act

The **Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA)** became law in October 1998. It allows the Bureau of Land Management to sell public land within a specific boundary around Las Vegas, Nevada. The revenue derived from land sales is split between the State of Nevada General Education Fund (5%), the Southern Nevada Water Authority (10%), and a special account available to the Secretary of the Interior for:

- **Lake Tahoe Restoration Act Projects**
 - Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas
 - Capital Improvements
 - Conservation Initiatives
 - Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plans (MSHCP)
 - Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisitions

*FY 2012 will be the last year that new SNPLMA funds will be available.

California State Water Resources Control Board/Lahontan Regional Board

- **Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program - Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319** – Federal funds are provided to California through the CWA to restore nonpoint source (NPS) impaired waters through implementation of TMDLs and Watershed Plans. The Water Boards make funds available through an annual solicitation process. Approximately \$4.5m were available statewide in 2010 for projects up to \$1m.
 - Eligibility: State, tribal, or local governmental entity
 - Match requirement: 0 – 25% of total project costs
 - Website: www.swrcb.ca.gov
- **Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)** – The CWSRF program offers low interest or subsidized financing agreements for water quality projects. The CWSRF program can provide assistance for the construction of wastewater treatment facilities and projects to control non-point sources of water pollution including projects that protect source water and enhance water quality.

- Eligibility: Tribe, city, town, district, and other entities
 - Match: No match
 - Website: www.swrcb.ca.gov
- **Proposition 50** - The Proposition 50 California River Parkway Grant Program in the Resources Agency is a competitive grant program for river parkways projects.
 - Eligibility:
 - Match:
 - Website: www.resources.ca.gov
 - Website: <http://www.tahoecons.ca.gov>
- **Proposition 84**
 - River Parkways: (a) protecting and restoring riparian and riverine habitat; and (b) providing recreational, open space, wildlife, flood management, water quality, and urban waterfront revitalization benefits to communities.
 - Urban Streams Restoration: (a) reducing property damage caused by flooding or erosion; (b) restoring, enhancing, or protecting the natural ecological values of streams; and (c) promoting community involvement, education, or stewardship.
 - Eligibility:
 - Match:
 - Website: www.resources.ca.gov
 - Website: <http://www.tahoecons.ca.gov>
 - Website: <http://www.sgc.ca.gov/> & [2011 Solicitation](#)
- **Proposition 18** (proposed Nov 2012 ballot measure) - To protect water quality and ensure safe, clean drinking water; meet the water supply needs of California residents, farms, businesses; expand water conservation and recycling; restore fish and wildlife habitat; reduce polluted runoff that contaminates rivers, streams, beaches, and bays; and protect the safety of water supplies threatened by earthquakes and other natural disasters.

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

- **Clean Water Act Sect. 319 NPS Program** - To restore nonpoint source (NPS) impaired waters through implementation of TMDLs and Watershed Plans.
 - Eligibility: State, tribal, local governmental entity, non-government entity, and private land owners.
 - Match: 50% of total project costs
 - Website: www.ndep.nv.gov

- **Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)** - The CWSRF program offers loans at or below market rate and other forms of subsidized financial assistance to municipalities to assist them in financing the construction of wastewater treatment works and projects to control non-point sources of water pollution.
 - Eligibility: Open
 - Match: No match for this program
 - Website: www.ndep.nv.gov

Nevada Division of State Lands

- **Nevada Lake Tahoe License Plate Program** - Special vehicle license plates to benefit Lake Tahoe are available through the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles. These funds are to be used for projects and programs that will preserve or restore the natural environment of the Lake Tahoe Basin.
 - Eligibility: State and federal agencies and local governments
 - Match: 25% of total project costs, State agencies are not required to provide a match
 - Website: <http://www.lands.nv.gov>
- **State of Nevada Lake Tahoe Water Quality and Erosion Control Grants Program**- Through the sale of general obligation bonds, the State of Nevada provides funds for the implementation of water quality and erosion control projects as well as the restoration of stream environment zones on the Nevada side of the Tahoe Basin.
 - Eligibility: State agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations
 - Match: 25% of total project costs, State agencies are not required to provide a match
 - Website: <http://www.lands.nv.gov>

Federal Highway Administration

- **National Highway System (NHS)** (same as STP below)
- **Surface Transportation Program (STP)** - Multiple highway-related purposes, includes stand-alone projects to address water pollution or environmental degradation caused wholly or partially by a transportation facility.
 - Eligibility: State DOT, tribal, or local governmental entity
 - Match: 10 - 20% of total project costs

- Website: www.fhwa.dot.gov
- **Transportation Enhancements (TE)** - TE program funds 12 eligible activities related to surface transportation including pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and safety programs, scenic and historic highway programs, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation (including stand-alone stormwater projects for mitigation of highway runoff pollution).
 - Eligibility: State DOT, tribal, or local governmental entity
 - Match: 10 - 20% of total project costs
 - Website: www.fhwa.dot.gov
- **Other DOT funding opportunities**
 - Environmental mitigation activities to address project-related impacts.
 - Eligibility: State DOT, tribal, or local governmental entity
 - Match: 10 - 20% of total project costs
 - Website: www.fhwa.dot.gov

US Bureau of Reclamation

- Lake Tahoe Regional Wetlands Development Program - To assist in addressing the past degradation of Lake Tahoe and its watershed by undertaking projects, either directly or through financial assistance to others, to meet the environmental thresholds as defined in the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's Environmental Improvement Program. The environmental thresholds of interest include water quality, soil conservation, wildlife, fisheries and vegetation..
 - Eligibility: State, tribal, or local governmental entities and educational institutions
 - Match: None required
 - Website: <http://www.usbr.gov>

US Environmental Protection Agency

- Targeted Watershed Grants - The Targeted Watersheds Grant program is designed to encourage successful community-based approaches and management techniques to protect and restore the nation's watersheds.
 - Eligibility: Tribes, local government, and NGO's.
 - Match: 25% of total project costs
 - Website: www.epa.gov/twg

- Wetland Program Development Grant - To develop or refine comprehensive wetland programs for wetlands protection and management.
 - Eligibility: State, tribal, or local governmental entity
 - Match: 25% of total project costs
 - Website: <http://www.epa.gov>